# THE STATE OF TENNESSEE POST-RETIREMENT BENEFITS TRUST FUND

## **INVESTMENT POLICY**

Effective: November 2, 2018

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Investment Policy Original Adopted: November 2, 2018

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#### I. Overview and Authority

#### A. Introduction

The State of Tennessee Post-Employment Benefits Trust Fund ("Trust Fund") was established to receive contributions for the purpose of providing certain post-employment benefits other than pension and to make distributions from the Trust Fund for certain post-employment benefits other than pension in accordance with the State of Tennessee Post-Employment Benefits Trust Declaration.

#### B. Authority

The investments of the Trust Fund shall be governed by the investment policies ("Investment Policy") adopted by the Trustees. The State Treasurer, a constitutional officer, is responsible for the investment and reinvestment of the Trust Fund's assets.

Implementation of the Investment Policy established by the Trustees is hereby delegated to the State Treasurer who shall put such policy into effect. In implementing this Investment Policy, the State Treasurer hereby delegates certain responsibilities, including the power to invest and reinvest the Trust Fund's assets within the criteria established within this Investment Policy, to the State of Tennessee, Treasury Department's Chief Investment Officer ("CIO") and Investment Division Staff. The State Treasurer shall retain oversight of the CIO and the Investment Division Staff in the performance of duties delegated under this policy.

#### C. Fiduciary Standard

All assets of the Trust Fund shall be invested and managed solely in the interest of the beneficiaries of the State of Tennessee Post-Retirement Benefits Trust in a manner that is consistent with T.C.A. §35-14-107, the prudent investor rule pursuant to T.C.A. §35-14-103, the standard of care pursuant to T.C.A. §35-14-104 and the exercise of reasonable care in delegation of investment and management functions pursuant to T.C.A. §35-14-111. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the assets of the Trust Fund shall be invested subject to the criteria further established by the Trustees in the Investment Policy, as may be amended from time to time.

#### D. Compliance with the Law

The Trustees, Investment Division Staff and investment-related service providers are required to comply with all applicable federal and state laws, rules and regulations. The Investment Policy may reference or restate applicable laws, rules and regulations, or portions thereof, for convenience; however, in the event of any conflict, the following items shall govern in order of precedence as listed: i) laws, rules and regulations, ii) Investment Policy, and iv) other policies

or procedures. Each fiduciary to the Trust Fund is ultimately responsible for compliance with applicable laws, rules and regulations.

#### E. Scope

The Investment Policy is binding on all persons and entities with authority over the Trust Fund's assets, including the Trustees, Investment Division Staff and investment-related service providers, as well as any other person who or entity that may have a fiduciary relationship with the Trust Fund.

#### II. Objective

The purpose of this Investment Policy is to support the Trust Fund's primary objective by:

- Outlining the distinct roles and responsibilities of the Trustees, Investment Division Staff and investment-related service providers;
- Establishing formalized benchmarks to measure and evaluate the performance results of the Trust Fund;
- Setting forth the additional investment criteria, which the Trustees judges to be prudent, in consideration of the purposes, terms, distribution requirements and other circumstances of the Trust Fund, and in the best interest of the beneficiaries;
- Communicating the Investment Policy, as approved by the Trustees, to the Investment
  Division Staff, investment-related service providers and any other person who or entity
  that may have a fiduciary relationship with the Trust Fund; and
- Functioning as a supervisory tool, guiding the ongoing oversight of the Trust Fund.

#### III. Roles and Responsibilities

In addition to the responsibilities described below and throughout the Investment Policy, investment-related service providers, as well as any other person who or entity that may have a fiduciary relationship with the Trust Fund, may have additional duties and responsibilities outlined within federal and state laws, rules and regulations, executed contracts or agreements, or as dictated by standard business or industry practices.

#### A. Trustees

- Operate with a duty of undivided loyalty;
- Adopt an Investment Policy which establishes the additional investment criteria, which the Trustees judges to be prudent, in consideration of the purposes, terms, distribution requirements and other circumstances of the Trust Fund, and in the best interest of the beneficiaries;
- Delegate investment and management functions that a prudent trustee of comparable skills could properly delegate under the circumstances;

- 4) Review and, if applicable, authorize the use of investment-related service providers or the processes employed by Investment Division Staff;
- 5) Evaluate the investment performance of the Trust Fund, through reports supplied by the State Treasurer, Investment Division Staff and service providers; and
- 6) Monitor the Trust Fund's compliance with this Investment Policy and applicable federal and state laws, rules and regulations.

#### B. State Treasurer

- 1) Implement the Investment Policy, as approved by the Trustees;
- Subject to retained oversight of the functions performed, delegate investment and management functions that a prudent trustee of comparable skills would properly delegate under the circumstances;
- 3) Review and, as applicable, authorize the use of investment-related service providers and the employment of Investment Division Staff;
- 4) Evaluate and, as applicable, approve the processes employed and procedures established by Investment Division Staff; and
- 5) With the advice of legal counsel, negotiate and execute all contracts, agreements and memorandums of understanding in accordance with applicable procurement policies and law.
- 6) Notify the Trustees of situations that merit their attention.

#### C. Chief Investment Officer

- Assume executive responsibility and authority, as delegated by the State Treasurer, for the ongoing evaluation and management of the Trust Fund, ensuring compliance with the Investment Policy, as approved by the Trustees, and such other policies, procedures, laws, rules and regulations that may apply;
- 2) Undertake the necessary authority to effectively manage and supervise the Investment Division Staff;
- 3) Delegate investment and management functions that a prudent trustee of comparable skills would properly delegate under the circumstances;
- 4) Report to and, as necessary or upon request, consult with the State Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer of Investments and Deferred Compensation on administrative, organizational and investment activities;
- 5) Collaborate with Investment Division Staff and, as applicable, investmentrelated service providers on development and implementation of appropriate investment strategies;
- 6) Prepare and submit reports, as required, to document investment activities;

- Take prudent actions that are deemed essential to protect the principal of the Trust Fund with any emergency actions being promptly reported to the State Treasurer; and
- 8) Notify the State Treasurer of situations that merit his attention.

#### D. Investment Division Staff

- Assume fiduciary responsibility and authority, as delegated by the State Treasurer and CIO, for the Investment Division Staff member's role in the ongoing evaluation and management of the Trust Fund's assets;
- Use his/her/their individual special skills and expertise in an effort to accomplish the primary objective of the Trust Fund, as stated in the Investment Policy, as approved by the Trustees;
- Ensure compliance with the Investment Policy, as approved by the Trustees, and such other policies, procedures, laws, rules and regulations that may apply;
- Assist the State Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer of Investments and Deferred Compensation and/or CIO with respect to any matters related to the Trust Fund's assets;
- 5) Prepare and submit reports, as required, to document investment activities; and
- 6) Notify the State Treasurer of situations that merit his attention.

#### IV. Governing Principles

The Trustees have adopted a set of governing principles for the oversight of the Trust Fund's assets. Those principles are as follows:

#### A. Primary Investment Objective and Risk Tolerance

The primary investment objective of the Trust Fund is to establish a stable, diversified investment portfolio that, in the long-term, will meet or exceed the assumed actuarial rate of return in order to provide sufficient liquidity to pay beneficiaries' post-employment benefits in a timely manner.

#### B. Asset Allocation Ranges, Targets and Benchmarks

Based on input from the CIO and Investment Division Staff, the Trustees hereby establish the following strategic asset allocation ranges:

Asset Classes	<u>Minimum</u>	<b>Maximum</b>
Equities	25%	80%
Fixed Income and Short-Term Securities	20%	50%
Real Estate	0%	20%
Private Equity - Strategic Lending	0%	20%
Cash and Cash Equivalents	0%	25%

Furthermore, based on input from the CIO and Investment Division Staff, the Trustees have established the following strategic asset allocation targets and determined that investment performance for the Trust Fund portfolios will be compared with the following respective benchmark indices:

<u>Portfolio</u>	Benchmark Index	Target	
Equities:		53%	
Domestic	S&P 1500	33%	
Canadian	S&P / TSX 60 Index	2%	
International Developed Markets	MSCI EAFE Investable	14%	
	Market Index (IMI)		
Emerging Markets	MSCI Emerging	4%	
	Markets Index**		
Fixed Income and Short-Term Securities	FTSE U.S. Large	25%	
	Pension Fund		
	Baseline Bond Index		
Publicly Traded Real Estate Investment Trusts ("REITs")	MSCI US REIT Index	10%	
Private Equity - Strategic Lending	Custom Index: 50%	7%	
	Barclay's High		
	Yield 2% Issuer		
	Capped Index + 50%		
	Credit Suisse		
	Leveraged Loan Index		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	91-Day U.S. Treasury	≤ 5%	
	Bills		
<u>TOTAL</u>		100%	

<sup>\*\*</sup>To facilitate proper evaluation of the Emerging Market Equity Portfolio, the benchmark index returns will be adjusted to exclude countries based on the country screening methodology developed by Investment Division Staff and approved by the CIO and State Treasurer.

#### C. Percentage Limitations

In determining compliance with the percentage limitations stated within this Investment Policy, the assets of the Trust Fund will be valued at fair market value. Accordingly, an investment may be made on any given day; provided that such investment does not cause any applicable limitation prescribed in this Investment Policy to be exceeded on such day.

#### D. Coinvestment and Transfer of Assets

The Trustees hereby empower the State Treasurer and Investment Division Staff to invest, reinvest and co-invest Trust Fund's assets with other funds held by the State Treasurer.

In the State Treasurer's sole discretion, the Trust Fund's assets may be transferred to the Group Trust. In this event, the Trust Fund's assets will be marked at fair market value in accordance with the Department of Treasury's valuation policy and the net fair market value of the Trust Fund's assets will be exchanged for units of interest in the Group Trust at current net asset value.

#### V. Investment Criteria

#### A. General

The Trustees hereby authorizes the State Treasurer and Investment Division Staff to invest and reinvest the Trust Fund's assets in the same securities or investments in which the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System is permitted to invest. Unless otherwise stated within this Investment Policy, the Trust Fund's assets shall be invested and reinvested subject to all the terms, conditions, limitations and restrictions imposed upon the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System in the making and disposing of its investments.

#### B. Real Estate and Private Equity – Strategic Lending Asset Allocations

For the avoidance of doubt, the State Treasurer and Investment Division Staff may implement passive or active, internal strategies using publicly traded securities, including but not limited to Real Estate Investment Trusts ("REITs") and non-investment grade, fixed income securities, in order to gain exposure to the real estate and private equity-strategic lending asset classes.

Recommendations for the acquisition and disposition of real estate or private equity-strategic lending commitments, transactions or investments (involving non-publicly traded securities) shall be presented by the Investment Staff to the State Treasurer for consideration and, if approved, reported to the Trustees at their next meeting.

#### VI. Transition Mandate

It is anticipated that the Trust Fund will undergo an initial funding phase comprised of several transfers or deposits of cash. Given the timing and nature of the initial funding phase, the Trustees recognize that the Trust Fund's portfolio will be in a period of transition. The Trustees expect the CIO and Investment Staff to appropriately manage this transition based upon market conditions, opportunity and the funding requirements of the State of Tennessee Post-Retirement Benefits Trust in an effort to, over time, structure the Trust Fund's portfolio as contemplated within this Investment Policy. Furthermore, given the nature and length of the transition period, the Trustees recognize that it may be more appropriate during the transition period to analyze assets based upon their terminal value and not relative to a benchmark.

#### VII. Custodian and Service Providers

The Trust Fund's assets shall be held in a separate account at the same master custodian financial institution that is utilized by the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System.

If determined to be in the best interest of the Trust Fund, the State Treasurer is authorized to contract for investment-related service providers for the Trust Fund.

#### VIII. Investment Monitoring and Reporting

The Chief Investment Officer and Investment Staff will collaborate with the Department of Treasury compliance staff to ensure efficient and effective development and administration of a compliance program that is reasonably designed to prevent, detect and, if necessary, remedy violations of the laws, rules, regulations and policies applicable to the Department of Treasury Investment Division's investment and securities activities.

The State Treasurer shall provide a quarterly investment summary report and an annual report to the Trustees.

#### IX. Administrative Fee

The State Treasurer may charge an investment-related administrative fee to the Trust Fund. The fee rate (basis points) may be deducted from the Trust Fund as an investment expense. The State Treasurer shall annually report such fee to the Trustees.

#### X. Policy Interpretation

The Trustees hereby authorizes the State Treasurer to take, for and on behalf of the Trust Fund, all actions necessary to comply with applicable federal and state securities laws, rules and regulations. The State Treasurer is authorized to provide written interpretive guidance and approve in writing, from time to time, exceptions from the requirements contained within the Investment Policy in furtherance of compliance or as deemed in the best interest of the State of

Tennessee Post-Retirement Benefits Trust's beneficiaries, consistent with both fiduciary standards and the scope of the Investment Policy. Such interpretive guidance or exception shall be reported in writing to the Trustees no later than thirty (30) days after issuing such guidance or exception.

#### XI. Policy Adoption

The Trustees for the State of Tennessee Post-Retirement Benefits Trust adopted this Investment Policy on  $\frac{1}{2}$   $\frac{1}{6}$ .

## TRUSTEES OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS TRUST

Date

David H. Lilfard, Jr.  Treasurer, State of Tennessee Chair of the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System Board of Trustees  ARMAR J.
Larry B. Martin Commissioner, Tennessee Department of Finance and Administration
10/31/18 Date  Mate
Senator Bo Watson Chairman, Senate Finance, Ways & Means Committee
10/28/2018 Date
Representative Charles M. Sargent, Jr. Chairman, House Finance, Ways & Means Committee
10/2/10

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